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| 2005  |  | •   |                                      | Approved for u  | PTO/SB/21 (09-Q4)<br>se through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031  |  |
|---|--|---|--------------------------------------|---|--|--|
| TRANSMITTA FORM  (to be used for all correspondence after the paperwork Reduction Act   | er Initial filing)                         | Filing Date First Named Inventor Art Unit Examiner Name Attorney Docket Number  | October 3 Charles L. 3732 Pedro Phil | rademark Officiormation unless 2 1, 2003 Branch et al. logene | a; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE it displays a valid OMB control number.   |  |
| Fee Transmittal Form  Fee Attached  Amendment/Reply  After Final  Affidavits/declaration(  Extension of Time Request  Express Abandonment Reque  Information Disclosure Staten  Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)  Reply to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application  Reply to Missing Parts  under 37 CFR 1.52 or  | s)  Rest  Remar                            | Drawing(s)  Licensing-related Papers  Petition  Petition to Convert to a  Provisional Application  Power of Attorney, Revocati  Change of Correspondence  Ferminal Disclaimer  Request for Refund  CD, Number of CD(s)  Landscape Table on Coks | Address                              | App of A  | eal Communication to Board ppeals and Interferences eal Communication to TC eal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) prietary Information us Letter er Enclosure(s) (please Identify wy): |  |
| Firm Name   | SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT |   |                                      |   |  |  |
| Signature  Printed name  Brad A. Schepers  Date  September 21, 200  |  |   | Reg. No.                             | 45,431  |  |  |
| CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING  I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below:  Signature  Typed or printed name  Brad A. Schepers  Date September 21, 2005 |  |   |                                      |   |  |  |

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the Individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

PTO/SB/17 (12-04v2)

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| Undergre Panerwork Reducti   | on Act of 199! | no nersons are requ | ired to re             | U.S. Patent<br>esnond to a collection | t and Tra<br>n of infor  | demark Office; U.S<br><u>mation unlass it dis</u> | i. DEPARTME    | OMB control number |  |
|--|----------------|---------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|---|----------------|--------------------|--|
| Effective on 12/08/2004.   |                |                     |                        | Complete if Known                     |                          |   |                |                    |  |
| Tees pursuant to the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2005 (H.R. 4818).  |                |                     | Application Nun        | 10/698,702                            | 698,702                  |   |                |                    |  |
| FEE TRANSMITTAL  |                |                     | Filing Date Octo       |                                       | October 31, 2            | ctober 31, 2003                                   |                |                    |  |
| For FY 2005  |                |                     | First Named Inventor C |                                       | Charles L. Branch et al. |   |                |                    |  |
|  |                |                     |                        | Examiner Name Ped                     |                          | Pedro Philoge                                     | edro Philogene |                    |  |
| Applicant claims small   | entity status  | See 37 CFR 1.2      | <u> </u>               | Art Unit 373                          |                          | 3732  | 32             |                    |  |
| TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$) 4,800.00  |                |                     | Attorney Docke         | MSDI-186/PC                           | ISDI-186/PC365.07        |   |                |                    |  |
| METHOD OF PAYMEN   | T (check al    | that apply)         |                        |                                       |                          |   |                |                    |  |
| Check Credit Card Money Order None Other (please identify):  Deposit Account Deposit Account Number: 12-2424 Deposit Account Name: Krieg DeVault LLP  For the above-identified deposit account, the Director is hereby authorized to: (check all that apply)  Charge fee(s) indicated below Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filling fee under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17  WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.   |                |                     |                        |                                       |                          |   |                |                    |  |
| FEE CALCULATION  |                |                     |                        |                                       |                          |   |                |                    |  |
| 1. BASIC FILING, SEAF  Application Type  | FILING         |                     |                        | RCH FEES Small Entity Fee (\$)        |                          | MINATION FEI Small Entit                          | v              | ees Pald (\$)      |  |
| Utility  | 300            | 150                 | 500                    | 250                                   | 20                       | 0 100   |                | 0.00               |  |
| Design   | 200            | 100                 | 100                    | 50                                    | 13                       | 0 65  |                |                    |  |
| Plant  | 200            | 100                 | 300                    | 150                                   | 16                       | 0 80  |                |                    |  |
| Reissue  | 300            | 150                 | .500                   | 250                                   | 60                       | 0 300   |                | <del></del>        |  |
| Provisional  | 200            | 100                 | 0                      | 0                                     | +                        | 0 0   | _              |                    |  |
| 2. EXCESS CLAIM FEES  Fee Description  Each claim over 20 (including Reissues)  Each independent claim over 3 (including Reissues)  Multiple dependent claims  Total Claims  Extra Claims  Fee (\$)  Fee Paid (\$)  HP = highest number of total claims paid for, if greater than 20.  Indep. Claims  Extra Claims  Extra Claims  Fee (\$)  Fee Paid (\$)  APPLICATION SIZE FEE  If the specification and drawings exceed 100 sheets of paper (excluding electronically filed sequence or computer listings under 37 CFR 1.52(e)), the application size fee due is \$250 (\$125 for small entity) for each additional 50 |                |                     |                        |                                       |                          |   |                |                    |  |
| sheets or fraction thereof. See 35 U.S.C. 41(a)(1)(G) and 37 CFR 1.16(s).  Total Sheets   Extra Sheets   Number of each additional 50 or fraction thereof   Fee (\$)    - 100 =  |                |                     |                        |                                       |                          |   |                |                    |  |
| Non-English Specification, \$130 fee (no small entity discount)  Other (e.g., late filing surcharge):  |                |                     |                        |                                       |                          |   |                |                    |  |
| SUBMITTED BY   |                | 101                 |                        |                                       |                          |   |                |                    |  |

SUBMITTED BY
Signature
Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)
Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)
Date September 21, 2005

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.136. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 30 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Doc.643551

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| In re patent application of:         | )   | Before the Examiner:       |
|--------------------------------------|-----|----------------------------|
| Charles L. Branch et al.             | )   | Pedro Philogene            |
| Application of Serial No. 10/698,702 | )   | Group Art Unit 3732        |
| Filed October 31, 2003               | )   | Ref. No. MSDI-186/PC365.07 |
| INTERBODY FUSION GRAFTS              | j j |                            |
| AND INSTRUMENTATION                  | j j | September 21, 2005         |

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Please enter and consider the following amendments and remarks. A fee in the amount of \$4,800.00 is remitted herewith for three (3) additional independent claims and eighty-four (84) additional total claims. Please provide any extensions of time necessary and charge any additional fees which may be necessary to Deposit Account No. 12-2424, but not to include any payment of issue fees.

09/26/2005 HLE333 00000004 10698702

01 FC:1201 02 FC:1202 600.00 OP 4200.00 OP I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:

September 21, 2005

Date of Deposit

e of Registered Representative

Braff A. Schepers

September 21, 2005

Date of Signature

Preliminary Amendment Page 1 of 27 Application Serial No. 10/698,702 INTERBODY FUSION GRAFTS AND INSTRUMENTATION Our Ref: MSDI-186/PC365.07